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UCR'S VANOLI SAYS PARTY ACTIVITY OVERDUE

PY131639Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0110 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Jul--Enrique Vanoli, former secretary of the national committee of the Radical Civic Union [UCR] and currently adviser to the party's presidency, has indicated that "from the viewpoint of the reorganization of political parties, a reasonable period of time has elapsed." In an interview published by the magazine CONFIRMADO, the UCR leader maintained that "the armed forces must understand that they cannot dispense with political parties in the next stage," referring to the institutional period which will begin on 1 August 1978. Asked about Ricardo Balbin's attitude regarding the process, Vanoli answered that "it is an attitude of waiting." He added: "He delivered a vote of confidence and he hopes that he will not be betrayed. This is known by a lot of people in the country."

Vanoli maintained that "the country is tired of frustrations," which is why the UCR believes that the best way to contribute to the process was to "accept the suspension of party and political activities. But we understood that the suspension would be only for a reasonable length of time," he added. After indicating that this period of time has already passed, he said that "now it is up to the government to attend to the request of allowing politicians to organize. When, at the end of last year and in March of this year, the president proclaimed the stage for dialog, the UCR accepted this and believed that it was the correct path." He then said: "It is a pity that the passage of time indicates that there is no intention of reestablishing either party activities (which no one wants urgently) or even reorganization of political parties."

Referring to the role which the so-called currents of opinion could play in channeling political activity, Vanoli warned that "if what is definitely intended is the elimination of political parties, I believe they are mistaken. Nothing can be done against the characteristics of countries," he warned. He cited the Peruvian case as an example. He said: "The elections there were won by the American Revolutionary Popular Alliance, which is a party with social democratic ideas similar to ours." He also referred to the case of Spain "where, after 40 years of Franco, the historic trends emerged."

Regarding a recent visit which Vanoli made to the United States, he was asked about "the real status of human rights" in that country. He answered: "The problem of human rights is that it is an overall policy implemented by the United States. What I can say, and I do so with satisfaction, is that in the United States the same thing does not occur as in Europe, where there is total confusion regarding Argentina and they believe that the Montoneros have a mandate from the people. In the United States they know that the guerrillas are a very small group which does not reflect popular sentiment," he added.

It is Vanoli's opinion that "Videla is the man who wishes to do everything as well as possible. What is not known is whether he has sufficient political advice regarding the steps to be taken." He also indicated that "he would like Videla to consult not only with the military but also to put out strong feelers for politicians' thoughts."

Regarding the UCR's top man, he indicated that "Balbin has no future political ambition and I believe that those who say he should stay at home are mistaken."

LATEST FIGURES GIVE PEREDA 51.32 PERCENT

PY131453Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Last night the National Electoral Court released the official count for a total of 1,201,842 votes that have been counted by the court, that is, 62.51 percent of a total of 1.9 million ballots. According to the official count, the following figures have been obtained:

People's Nationalist Union [UNP]: 616,806 ballots, 51.32 percent;
Democratic and Popular Unity Front: 231,556 ballots, 19.02 percent;
Historic National Revolutionary Movement: 141,899 ballots, 12.03 percent;
Christian Democratic Party: 139,298 ballots, 11.56 percent;
People's National Revolutionary Movement: 17,381 ballots, 1.45 percent;
Revolutionary Front of the Left: 15,565 ballots, 1.29 percent;
Bolivian Socialist Party: 5,570 ballots, 0.46 percent;
Tupac Katari Indian Movement: 1,957 ballots, 0.16 percent;
Eastern Rural Party: 251 ballots, 0.02 percent;
Blank ballots: 21,786, 1.87 percent; and
Annulled ballots: 9,773, 0.81 percent.

Total of ballots counted so far throughout the nation: 1,201,842, 62.51 percent.

These are official figures released by the National Electoral Court. It can be observed that the UNP has a considerable advantage over the other political parties which participated in the elections.

BANZER, UNP ISSUE STATEMENTS ON PEASANTS, OBSERVERS

PY131903Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY

[Text] The presidential secretariat has issued a communique in which the government asserts that it will defend peasants and their property against certain threats from self-seeking political groups. The communique says:

President Hugo Banzer Suarez has asserted that the armed forces of the nation are ready to defend the peasants and their properties in view of the fact that there are threats from political groups which went to rural areas before and during the elections to threaten them in case they did not vote for a certain candidate.

The president said that the peasants have no reason to fear threats and warnings from political groups who are trying to divide the rural population. He stressed: I wish to tell you that you should not let yourselves be deceived by demagogic politicians who, in their anxiety to win peasant votes, are threatening you and have even told you that you will pay for your disobedience with your land and cattle.

These words were spoken by President Banzer during a meeting he had yesterday with residents of the (Alto Ypavi) district who invited him to visit that part of La Paz city to express their thanks for the public works the government has undertaken for the benefit of that district.

President Banzer then stated that he has received explicit charges from peasant leaders and ordinary peasants that political groups of the opposition have arrived in rural communities to threaten the peasants and compel them, not only in La Paz Department but also in other regions of the country, to vote other than how they wished. Have no fear, he stressed. The armed forces are ready to defend the peasants and their properties. Do not let yourselves be deceived by groups of demagogs who only seek to create difficult situations and divide the campesino population.

General Banzer concluded by saying that the requests made by the residents of (Alto Ypavi) regarding drinking water and electricity will be studied by the appropriate organizations and that he would give the necessary instructions to them. He urged them to continue working for the progress of their district and he also expressed his thanks for the support they had given during the works on an athletic field.

The People's Nationalist Union [UNP] of Llallagua has sent a telegram, expressing its support for the government in its decision taken against the international observers who arrived in the country because of the elections. The text of the telegram says:

The UNP of Llallagua has issued an executive resolution supported by party members in general to unconditionally support the decision made by the government against foreign observers who have violated national sovereignty. We Bolivians should determine the interests of our fatherland. Foreign observers should be given 12-hour deadlines to leave the country for having interfered in domestic affairs and attacks on Bolivian interests.

CABINET DISCUSSES POSTELECTION SITUATION

PY140120Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jul 78 PY

[Excerpt] Today's cabinet meeting analyzed the postelectoral political situation of the country and resolved to instruct Bolivian representatives to international organizations to convey the government's displeasure at the interference of certain international observers.

The cabinet meeting lasted from 0800 until 1630. During these 8 and 1/2 hours the ministers analyzed various aspects of national activity. The presidential press secretariat has prepared the following report:

The cabinet meeting made an in-depth analysis of the events which took place during the elections held on 9 July and expressed its satisfaction over the fact that the citizenry went to vote in a disciplined manner, showing a high degree of civic maturity and democratic spirit.

Interior Minister Gen Guillermo Jimenez Gallo reported to the cabinet that the elections took place in the midst of absolute calm. He stressed, however, that the broad freedom granted by the government, which had invited observers from the Organization of American States to attest to the straightforwardness of the elections, allowed the entry into the country of alien elements whose factional interests have severely harmed the dignity and sovereignty of the nation.

After analyzing this situation the foreign minister was instructed to order Bolivian diplomatic representatives to convey the Bolivian Government's displeasure over this open intrusion into domestic affairs by persons who had stated that they were representatives of international organizations, thus violating the rights and sovereignty of all Bolivians and the principle of nonintervention established by the United Nations.

After analyzing the postelectoral situation of the country the Interior Ministry was instructed to recommend that political parties and fronts not hold rallies or demonstrations which could lead to actions capable of disrupting the tranquillity of the country.

GOVERNMENT DENIES MILITARY-OPPOSITION MEETING

PY140250Y Buenos Aires TEIAM in Spanish 0140 GMT 14 Jul 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 13 Jul--Government officials do not know anything about a meeting between the high military command and leaders of the opposition mentioned tonight by former President Victor Paz Estenssoro.

Samuel Mendoza, head of the presidential press office, said he did not know of any meeting of this kind, which according to Victor Paz, was going to study the situation created by the charges of "electoral fraud."

Paz Estenssoro asserted at the end of a press conference held with Hernan Siles and Rene Bernal that they had been "called by the high military command" for a meeting that they were going there right away.

Villalpando Denies Meeting

PY140237Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jul 78 PY

[Excerpts] Gen Alfonso Villalpando, commander in chief of the Bolivian Army, has reasserted that the armed forces will respect the results of the elections and that he will not meet with political leaders. General Villalpando made his statement at the end of today's cabinet meeting.

In response to our question about a request from political leaders to meet with the commander in chief of the army to report concrete proof of biased leanings of the armed forces, we received the following answer: [begin Villalpando recording] Well, I will send a note to the gentlemen who have asked to meet with me, but I do not believe that I am empowered to hold a meeting with them because I represent only one branch of the armed forces--there is also the airforce and the navy. I could not grant them a meeting. We could answer [words indistinct]. [end recording]

FUDP, MNR, PDC AGREE TO ACT JOINTLY IN ELECTION AFTERMATH

PY131543Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Last night three opposition parties signed an agreement to act jointly during the new political process which will be initiated in the country on 6 August. The document was signed by Luis Adolfo Siles Salinas, Hernan Siles Zuazo, Victor Paz Estenssoro and Benjamin Miguel, representing the Democratic and Popular Unity Front [FUDP], the historical National Revolutionary Movement [MNR] and the Christian Democratic Party [PDC].

The main points of the agreement deal with the following subjects: defense of the people's votes against any irregularities; prohibition of all parties which have signed the political pact to make any kind of agreement with the People's Nationalist Union at a later date; and an appeal to the armed forces to respect the votes of the people and the constitution.

Opposition Leaders Meet

PY142059Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jul 78 PY

[Text] This is the latest report: Hernan Siles Zuazo, leader of the Democratic and Popular Unity Front [FUDP] is now meeting with Victor Paz Estenssoro, leader of the historical faction of the National Revolutionary Movement and Rene Bernal Escalante, head of the Bolivian Christian Democratic Party. At this meeting the political leaders will discuss the need to impeach the presidents of the electoral courts, in view of the irregularities experienced in the process of constitutionalization.

Official spokesmen of the FUDP indicated that the meeting will also discuss restriction of the popular vote and the possibility of staging a democratic civic demonstration to protest this. They will also analyze the possibility of rejecting the 9 July elections.

ALL UNIVERSITIES CLOSED UNTIL 14 AUGUST

PY131557Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY

[Text] The National Council of Higher Education [CNES] has confirmed that universities throughout the country will remain closed until 14 August. Until then, the council will work on the implementation and rationationalization of measures which will permit completion of the academic year.

Meanwhile, the Faculty of Humanities and Educational Sciences has vehemently repudiated the position taken by the CNES and has expressed support for Rector Hugo Mansilla for having made the decision to continue instruction and administrative activities of the Greater University of San Andres in La Paz. The faculty requested pronouncements by organizations in the city regarding the CNES decision and announced that it will disregard all manner of dismissals and appointments on the part of CNES. The Revolutionary Unity Front, which is for university autonomy, has declared a state of emergency and requests the reopening of the university, the continuance of the democratization process and calls for a closing of ranks to achieve autonomy and joint administration of the university.

MILITARY OFFICER ACCUSED OF PEASANT'S MURDER

PY121905Y La Paz Radiodifusora Cristal in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY

[Summary] The Tupac Katari peasant confederation has accused Maj (Daniel Clavijo), a coordinator of the military-peasant pact, of the murder of peasant (Domingo Salcedo).

This accusation was made at a press conference called by Genaro Flores, leader of the Tupac Katari peasant confederation. He repudiated the repression reigning since 1971 and the dictatorship ruled by General Banzer and Pereda Asbun. He also protested against the disappearance of opposition ballots at the recent elections and against the persecution of peasant leaders who made charges of these and other irregularities.

Flores also stated that his peasant confederation has urged its members to join forces with the Democratic and Popular Unity Front in support of Hernan Siles Zuazo's candidacy.

He concluded by declaring the Tupac Katari peasant confederation in a state of emergency and a 30-day period of national mourning.

MINING COOPERATIVES PROTEST LEADER'S ARREST

PY131550Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY

[Text] The National Mining Cooperatives Federation of Bolivia has declared a state of emergency until it obtains the release of its president, Panfilo Anavi (di Gabriel). According to a communique released to the press, this leader was detained by agents of the Oruro Political Order Board [DOP] when he returned from La Paz to the northern part of Potosi Department.

The same communique, signed by leaders of the Mining Cooperatives Federation, says that Panfilo Anavi is being held incommunicado in the DOP premises in Oruro city, a situation which is disturbing the working class and harms the normal development of mining production in the region.

Anavi took part in the electoral process as Senate candidate for Potosi Department, nominated by the Democratic and Popular Unity Front.

The National Mining Cooperatives Federation of Bolivia has issued an accusation regarding this act to all organizations with which the labor organization maintains relations.

BRIEFS

FRENCH FINANCE SUBWAY--La Paz Mayor Mario Mercado reported yesterday that a subway linking El Alto de La Paz with the city will be built by the La Paz municipality in 3 years. The French Government will loan Fr250 million; a consortium of French banks, Fr74 million; and the La Paz municipality, 94 million Bolivian pesos. The whole investment represents approximately 1,597 million Bolivian pesos. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 8 Jul 78 p 8 PY]

YPFB 1977 RESULTS--Bolivian Government Oil Deposits [YPFB] has published its yearly report for 1977. It gives the gross income of the state enterprise during 1977 as 4,499 million Bolivian pesos, 60 percent produced by exports and 40 percent by domestic sales. In the same period YPFB paid taxes totaling 1,838 million Bolivian pesos. [La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY]

JORNAL PREDICTS QUICK DEMISE OF NEW FRONT

PY130246Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 12 Jul 78 p 6 PY

[From "JB Report": "Forecast"]

[Text] The National Redemocratization Front and its candidates will not last beyond the end of the month. Senator Magalhaes Pinto may continue his solitary march, but there is already a possibility of his running as candidate for reelection as Minas Gerais governor, after demonstrating that his change of attitude is not a surrender.

The front's death will be the result of the following factors:

--The National Conference of Brazilian Bishops (CNBB), the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB), and the Brazilian Press Association (ABI), whose support the front had taken for granted but did not receive;

--The leadership of the Brazilian Democratic Movement (MDB), which did not want to associate with a coalition which was more interested in the presidential election than in the November election;

--The moderate grassroots of the MDB, which remained silent when the party's support for the coalition was being arranged.

FIGUEIREDO WILL NOT CHANGE 'APRIL PACKAGE'

PY130354Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 12 Jul 78 p 2 PY

[Excerpts] Senator Eurico Rezende stated in Brasilia yesterday that the term in office for "bionic" [presidentially appointed] senators will not be reduced and that there will be no changes in the rules established by the "April package" during the entire term in office of the next president. "I can assure you," said Rezende after holding a meeting with President Geisel, "that there will be no change in those rules, because Figueiredo's loyalty to Geisel would not allow it. In addition to that fact, Figueiredo knew about and approved the reforms proposed in April of last year."

The "April constitutional text," which is what the leader of the government bloc in the Senate called the "April package," will remain in force "because of its value, because these laws are correct and democratic." Eurico Rezende stated that the "package" will coexist with political reforms. As to the statement concerning President Geisel's intentions to appoint representative figures as "bionic" senators, Rezende guaranteed that "this will be accomplished through an ecumenical coexistence between theoreticians and pragmatists."

LEATHER EXPORTS OF $400 MILLION PREDICTED

PY131359Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 12 Jul 78 p 18 PY

[Excerpt] Porto Alegre--According to the vice president of Brazil's leather processing industries, Luis Otavio Vieira, the leather and shoe sector should export $400 million worth of merchandise by the end of the year, despite the export restrictions imposed on leather tanneries to insure a regular supply for the domestic market.

Vieira said that $100 million worth of leather was exported in the first 4 months of this year, which represented a 13-percent reduction over same period last year.

IMPACT OF LETELIER CASE ON RELATIONS WITH U.S. STRESSED

PY131431Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0528 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 12 Jul--Jose Miguel Barros, Chilean ambassador to Washington, stated in Santiago today that the murder of former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier is very seriously influencing U.S.-Chilean relations.

In an interview with the magazine ERCILLA, Barros indicated the need for all Chileans to realize the implication of the murder of a political personality who had prestige and important contacts in Washington, the heart of the United States.

Letelier, former foreign minister, former defense minister and former Chilean ambassador to the United States during the Socialist regime of President Salvador Allende (1970-1973), was murdered in the U.S. capital in September 1976.

The picture became more serious, added Barros, when they found a U.S. citizen, Michael Townley, involved in the murder. Townley, together with his wife, and without being refuted, stated he was linked to a Chilean state organization.

The diplomat then stated to Ercilla that "this case has so affected relations that I believe it must be thoroughly clarified and that those who participated in the crime must be punished with all the force of the law."

PINOCHET COMMENTS AGAIN ON FOREIGN THREAT

PY130330Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2140 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 12 Jul--Chilean President Gen Augusto Pinochet has decided to publicly face the problems which his government is having regarding international relations, observers said here today.

The chief of state concluded a 4-day tour through the north of the country during which he made several calls for internal unity in view of possible dangers which are threatening Chilean territorial sovereignty.

When there are countries which want to affect our sovereignty, we must demonstrate that we are Chileans and that we are going to defend our territory regardless of the cost, Pinochet said in the small city of Combarbala, 370 km north of Santiago. Before beginning his trip, Pinochet told a group of reporters: We are an easygoing, peaceful people. They have to provoke us before we start punching.

Last Monday, observing Youth Day, Pinochet spoke to a crowd of youths from all over the country in La Serena, 470 km from this capital. Chile has never and will never surrender because proud and indomitable blood runs through our veins. We are ready to keep our flag undefeated, as a symbol of a people whose patriotism and love of liberty will never yield, he said. Pinochet stated that those who have confused national sobriety and moderation for weakness, have always received a categoric and vigorous reaction from our race.

CUBILLOS MEETS WITH HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP

PY132023Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY

[Excerpts] The Chilean Government has reiterated its full cooperation with the UN Human Rights Commission. According to Sergio Diez, Chilean ambassador to the United Nations, this reiteration was made by Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos during a meeting which he held with the three members of the Human Rights Commission.

Foreign Minister Cubillos noted that the group's work program is known only by the investigators and added that they had made a gentlemen's agreement not to seek much publicity so as to enable them to work without interruptions. Regarding the cities, places and organizations they will visit, the minister reiterated that these will be chosen by them according to a prestablished plan. But he added that whatever they want to see, they will see. [begin Cubillos recording] I am very confident that whatever they do, they will do objectively, and as I have said before, I am certain that any group such as this will be well impressed after they come here and observe us. [end recording]

Cubillos added that the members of the commission did not make any special requests.

In the weeks ahead the Human Rights Commission will meet with President Augusto Pinochet and with junta members Jose Toribio Merino and Cesar Mendoza. They will meet this afternoon with Supreme Court members.

ENVOY TO ARGENTINA DISCUSSES TRADE RESTRICTIONS

PY131939Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY

[Summary] Sergio Onofre Jarpa, Chilean ambassador to Argentina, has stated that economic measures which are enforced by the Argentine Government and which affect Chilean trade may be lifted. The Chilean ambassador is in Santiago on a private visit. Chilean Foreign Minister Cubillos recently stated the Chilean Government had requested an explanation from the Argentine Government of the enforcement of regulations which hindered trade with Chile. The Chilean ambassador said that the situation is not so serious as it was said to be. Furthermore, he expressed hope that the problem will be overcome.

ODEPLAN ISSUES FAVORABLE ECONOMIC REPORT

PY131605Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Santiago--The latest report issued by the National Planning Office [ODEPLAN] states that the present trend of real liquidity, which the Chilean economy is showing, will help increase the gross domestic product and investment. The report adds that due to comparative advantages in Chile, the production of capital goods and the use of manual labor which will be absorbed by that sector, employment will continue to increase. Regarding trade, the report states that in the first 4 months of the year the balance of payments surplus yielded nearly (?60) million Chilean pesos. Unofficial reports, however, state that this surplus is reportedly about $600 million. [as heard]

As for consumer price index levels, the report states that there has been a decrease in the inflation rate.

RADIO EDITORIAL DENOUNCES ELECTION VIOLENCE

PA131709Y Quito Cadena Amarillo, Azul y Rojo in Spanish 2330 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Editorial: "Reprehensible Activities"]

[Text] A political campaign which had developed in a climate of [words indistinct] during the past days has unfortunately seen the prevalence of violence against demonstrations as well as offenses, slanders and, in general, negative activities whose only results will be the creation of divisions and hatreds among the various sectors.

These actions, which were sporadic and isolated during the greater part of the campaign, have come to widen divisions, increase differences and stir emotions to the detriment of a stable and lasting legal order within a truly representative democratic system for all Ecuadoreans.

Violence, demagogy and hatreds are apparently contaminating the orderly atmosphere in which Ecuador has reached the climax of its democratization process. The country and all the people have supported their leaders who have reaffirmed their intention of holding elections in a climate of respect and order and in a constructive climate which will allow cool reasoning and the constructive debate of [words indistinct].

This debate is precisely the initial premise of this campaign. [sentence as heard] All candidates and their respective supporters are working within the process to present solutions and to proclaim a [words indistinct] on an ideal.

Demagogy and recent violence have changed the initial spirit and created a conflict whose consequences we all know. [words indistinct]

In order to do this and insure the future we must return to the original spirit which has prevailed during practically the entire electoral campaign throughout the country.

The [words indistinct] and the analysis of the political struggle will show that there is no room for violence or slander because these negative methods break the rules precisely at a time when Ecuadorean progress and the people's welfare require the greatest unity and cooperation.

COLORADO PARTY PRAISES DEMONSTRATION AT U.S. EMBASSY

PY1302444Y Asuncion Red Privada de Emisoras in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY

[From Colorado Party executive board's program "The Voice of the Colorado Party"]

[Text] The demonstration staged by the young national university students, who started at the Catholic university and marched through the streets to the site of the U.S. Embassy to firmly protest the attempts of the diplomatic representative of that northern country at interfering with our domestic affairs, is merely one of those attitudes natural in healthy youth whose nationalist feelings are always ready to break out. This is a revolutionary attitude which stems from the rebel spirit of those who, even at an early stage of their lives, are incapable of harboring feelings other than those open for all to see. But above all, this is the brave attitude of youth who feel heirs to those who fought in Curupayty [War of the Triple Alliance] and Boqueron [Chaco War] and who feel the enormous responsiblity of being faithful to the legacy inherited from t. ir forefathers.

It was a peaceful march and a peaceful meeting, a quality which did not prevent things from being made very clear. Posters, picket signs and slogans extolled patriotism and criticized interventionism, repudiated communism, and reminded those who distractedly t: y to forget it that the youth are ready to face any contingency. Far from these youths' minds are the slanderous remarks which an allegedly independent press tried to accuse them of saying. How great is the difference between last night's student demonstration and that other one held on 19 June 1969, when the northern country was charged with imperialism and colonialism!

Last night's youth merely carried picket signs to indicate displeasure with interference in our domestic affairs. The youths who demonstrated on 19 June 1969 violently protested the presence of a high-ranking official of that same northern country. Last night's youths attacked no one but merely refuted the statements and repudiated the personal interference of a diplomat in issues alien to his functions and of concern to Paraguayans alone. Those other youths, the ones who demonstrated on 19 June 1969, burned the flag of the United States to express repudiation of this country, with which we have always been allies and with which we have struggled for a better world.

Aside from these incidents in our relations, incidents which should be blamed exclusively on the lack of knowledge of his own functions as a diplomat, who went beyond them, a diplomat who does not know the Paraguayan situation and is therefore unable to fulfill his functions here, aside from the these events--we were saying--is the unfortunate side of the issue. The age-old tradition of friendship between our two peoples has been forgotten; the solidarity maintained at all times by our countries as a banner of unity has been forgotten; the fact that Paraguay was an ally of the United States during World War II has been forgotten; the many times when Paraguay's vote was required at international forums such as the United Nations, the Organization of American States, UNESCO, the International Telecommunications Union, etc, etc, have been forgotten. Forgotten are, in sum, the many times when Paraguay never spared its cooperation, support and solidarity to defend Christian and Western civilization. Forgotten is the fact that Paraguayan troops were ready and actively participated--in response to a request from the great northern nation--in the reestablishment of freedom and democracy in a Caribbean nation, thus preventing a new communist country from sprouting under Uncle Sam's nose.

How soon has all this been forgotten, and all because of the personal friendship of a diplomat with an extremist; all because of the very notorious relationship of a diplomat with a certain family, whose head is a well-known Marxist; worse still, a friendship with a man who had severely offended the diplomat's fatherland, a Marxist who had burned the holy flag of his fatherland in a public protest against the visit of a high-ranking U.S. official.

Unless there are other interests which we are unable to understand, and which we will never be able to understand, unless there is a very personal and emotional involvement which may lead a man to make mistakes such as interfering in the private affairs of the country to which he is accredited, we shall never be able to understand activities of the kind we are now discussing. This is a poor show for a diplomatic representative who has broken an age-old tradition upheld by honorable and outstanding figures of the northern country which we have always admired and respected.

This is not even a page; it is merely a soiled paragraph in the great book of friendship which Paraguay and the United States have written in time and space. However, his deplorable attitude merely throws into relief the tasks carried out by his predecessors. Now we value more than ever the figures which have left a deep mark on the spirit of all Paraguayans, such as (McMahon), (?Rutheford), Hayes, and the long list of distinguished figures who have completed outstanding missions in our country.

Paraguayans are a people who, for a long time, have experienced pressures and disruptive actions from bad governments and nations which tried to look upon us as a colony, as farms which supplied them with raw materials. Paraguayans are a people who have withstood the bullies and the arbitrary, those who do not know how to express solidarity with their true friends, because here in Paraguay, friendship for brother nations is a law stemming from our own dignity.

Thus, it should not surprise anyone that the youth have taken to the streets to tell their own truth, to defend their dignity and to protect the principle of noninterference in affairs which concern Paraguayans alone, as they took to the streets and were cowardly machinegunned on 23 October 1931 for demanding defense of the national heritage.

These youths have a healthy patriotism, but their convictions have been hurt by characters who attempt to soil our concept of sovereignty and independence. This small incident, whose leading figure is a well-known extremist, leads us to the conclusion that the fatherland is above ideological differences, that Paraguay's independent status has not accepted anyone's tutelage, pressure or impositions since those glorious days of 14 and 15 May 1811 [Paraguayan independence].

LAINO'S LAWYER RESUBMITS HABEAS CORPUS PLEA

PY1311338Y Asuncion Primero de Marzo in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Nelson Garcia has resubmitted a habeas corpus plea on behalf of Domingo Laino before the Supreme Court. It should be noted that in the sixth criminal court, under Antonio Escobar Cantero's direction, documents for a court case are being processed charging Laino with violating Law No 209.

COLORADO PARTY DENIES INSULTING U.S.

PY140330Y Asuncion Red Privada de Emisoras in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jul 78 PY

[From Colorado Party executive board's program "The Voice of the Colorado Party"]

[Summary] "In today's local newspapers we read the statement made at a press conference by the diplomatic representative of the great northern country regarding the recent events which culminated in a student demonstration protesting the diplomat's interference in the country's domestic affairs.

"Apparently to justify his actions, especially the remarks he made to the press on Saturday, 8 July, the ambassador said that 'the Colorado Party, through its radio programs, has been trying by all means to disrupt our frank, sincere relations, by insulting me, my country, my people and my government's foreign policy.'

"This suggests two things: Either the ambassador is lying or the Embassy's services are very inefficient. One should not make this kind of statement without sound evidence. We believe we are dealing with a man who is the head of the diplomatic mission of a great country. Furthermore, we had quite a different opinion of the United States Information Service, USIS, and of the Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, of that friendly country. From what we can see, the translation services of both USIS and CIA are sloppy; they cannot just clumsily distort the tapes of our programs and present the translations to the ambassador on the following day.

"We do not recall reading in PATRIA, the organ of the Colorado Party, anything which may be construed as an insult to the ambassador. Nor would we, in 'the Voice of the Colorado Party,' commit the error of insulting a country and a people, particularly a nation with which we maintain a longstanding alliance against the common enemy of the civilized world, that is, international communism.

"We are going to prove what we have said in these programs so that the ambassador may not be misled and so that USIS and CIA officials may not biasedly distort our remarks, because this distortion will indeed disrupt what he called 'our frank, sincere relations.'

"And here is the evidence: Commenting on the ambassador's remarks, in our 8 July program we said that his remarks were inappropriate because Laino Figueredo was a Paraguayan citizen and had to stand in an upcoming trial before the court. We also said on Saturday that we were overlooking the fact that the diplomat had called the foreign minister himself by telephone since, if he were interested in learning about the fate of his personal friend, he should have inquired through the appropriate channels. Thus far, is there anything which could be considered an insult to the United States and its people?

"We then said that although we did not intend to interfere in his affairs, we wanted simply to ask him how he could possibly become the personal friend of a man with notorious totalitarian ideas not in keeping with the government he represented. Then we respectfully asked him this question: Can an ambassador become the friend of a man who in a public demonstration burned the flag, a sacred emblem of his fatherland? Then we reminded the ambassador that Laino, with other notorious leftists, burned the U.S. flag during a student rally staged on 19 June 1969 in front the Faculty of Philosophy of the Catholic university. Could this remark be considered offensive to the U.S. Government and state?

"On Saturday we also recalled that Laino had been in Czechoslovakia for 3 years, receiving subversive training, and we suggested that the diplomat ask his friend whether he had burned the U.S. flag and whether had had been in a communist country on a scholarship. And we concluded by categorically stating that Paraguay is an anticommunist country along with the United States, that it will continue to be anticommunist both without and against the United States. Could this remark be considered offensive to U.S. citizens and the government?

On Monday we said that Laino's case was going to be decided exclusively by the judge who is hearing the case. On Wednesday we said that the peaceful demonstration staged by students on Tuesday was entirely different from that led by Laino in 1969. Could the diplomat tell us how we offended him, his country or his people?

"Beware of these assertions. We can prove and uphold what we said from this forum, and we do not let ourselves get carried away by pettiness or personal friendship." It is proper to ask: Who is really trying to disrupt our sincere, frank relations? "We said--and we reaffirm this--that Laino offended the people and Government of the United States by burning the U.S. flag and we demonstrated it; we said that he had subversive training in a communist country and we demonstrated it."

AMERICAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS APPROVED

PA131857Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0529 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 12 Jul (AFP)--The Peruvian Government has approved the American Convention on Human Rights, according to a law published today in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

This convention was approved at the inter-American conference in Costa Rica held from 7 to 22 November 1969 and was signed by Peru on 27 July 1977. However, in order to be implemented, it had to be approved by law.

APRA LEADER SEES 'GENUINE DEMOCRATIC STAGE' DEVELOPING

LD131009Y Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 29 Jun 78 p 6 LD

[Angel L. de la Calle interview in Trujillo, Peru, with Peruvian American Revolutionary Popular Alliance leader Victor R. Haya de la Torre: "The People's Freedom To Decide Was Thwarted in Peruvian Election"]

[Excerpt] Question: What is your interpretation of the victory of the American Revolutionary Popular Alliance [APRA] in this election?

Answer: We must wait a few days in order to make a precise assessment. We must discover exactly how many votes we won and find out how our supporters behaved. In order to make a real interpretation we must also find out how the Peruvians not supporting APRA voted.

Question: The Popular Christian Party [PPC] of Luis Bedoya took second place in the Peruvians' voting preferences. What similarity is there between APRA and the PPC?

"We Are a Leftwing Party"

Answer: Scarcely any. In our approach to the social and economic situation in Peru we are a democratic leftwing party. The PPC is at the opposite end of the spectrum, since it is very clearly defined as a rightwing conservative party.

Question: In the opinion of many commentators, APRA has clearly moved toward the right over the last few years. Is your leftism the same as three decades ago?

Answer: The same. Our program has not changed since 1931, when our analysis was that European imperialist capitalism had reached its apogee and predicted that that process would begin to develop in countries such as those which make up Latin America.

Question: Peru's problems are very grave. Can they be resolved without the political forces forming alliances?

Answer: It is too early to talk about that. It depends, first of all, on the final outcome of the elections and next on the attitudes of the other parties, the stance of the government and the economic situation. There are many factors which have an influence.

Question: APRA has maintained contacts with General Morales' government. Does this mean that your party has reached an agreement with the armed forces on Peru's future political leadership?

Answer: The contacts have in fact been very relative and are normal between a government and an important political organization. Although we accepted the government's plans with respect to convoking a constituent assembly, we have also been very critical about the methods of that convocation. We still believe that the election was improvised and that the simplest and easiest way would have been election by a simple majority. Our criticisms remain unchanged: We believe that the people's freedom to decide was thwarted by deciding on preferential voting, preventing Peruvians living abroad from voting and not allowing nonresidents to vote.

"IMF Should Revise Its Terms"

Question: The International Monetary Fund's influence on the Peruvian economic situation seems to be considerable at present. How will Peru respond to the IMF demands?

Answer: The dialog is not yet over, and, moreover, it is foreseeable that a new stage will begin in these relations after the proclamation of the constituent assembly. The dialog will undoubtedly be difficult, because the IMF has set obligations and terms which are very onerous for country. In our opinion, these terms should be revised and rendered more attainable for our limited resources.

Question: You have always been a politician with a pan-American outlook. Do you still retain the same ideals of unity and integration?

Answer: Of course. APRA's principal basis with respect to foreign policy is Latin American integration. We will continue working to strengthen all these alliances of countries with the Andean Pact, the economic commission for Latin America and, above all, the Latin American parliament which the previous government set up by means of a law of ours. Despite the fact that parliamentary activities have been suspended for long years in our country, the general secretariat of the Latin American congress has functioned here under the chairmanship of a Peruvian. The elections in countries such as Ecuador, Bolivia and Peru itself to open up new prospects for this Parliament. We are prepared to include recognition of this continental assembly in the new constitution.

Question: Are you afraid of a new situation of coercion occurring in Peru?

Answer: I am an optimist and believe that we really have the opportunity for a genuine democratic stage to begin. I trust that with the government's promises, the favorable atmosphere which this election has created and the spirit of the country, which has made the decision to return to democracy, that danger can be neutralized. There is also another factor: The country's problems are very grave and must be tackled without any kind of adventurism.

EXILED TROTSKIYITE LEADER COMMENTS ON 'FARCE' ELECTION

LD1310172 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 1 Jul 78 p 3 LD

[Rafael Fraguas 30 June interview in Madrid with Peruvian Socialist Workers Party leader Hugo Blanco: "Foremost Peruvian Leftwing Party Describes Recent Election as Farce"]

[Excerpts] "The Peruvian election was a farce. Nine opposition candidates were arrested and subsequently deported, and there has so far been no offical statement allowing us to return to Peru," Hugo Blanco, Trotskiyist leader of the Socialist Workers Party and top candidate of the Peasants, Students' and Workers Popular Front [FOCEP], which has become the third-ranking political force in the country and the foremost leftwing force, told EL PAIS yesterday.

"Despite the fraud entailed in this election," Hugo Blanco said, "FOCEP is the third-ranking force in Peru, even though 3 million illiterates, basically peasants, who constitute our coalition's electoral basis, were unable to vote because they were not allowed by the authorities to do so." "The aim of our presence in Europe," Blanco added, "is to denounce the Peruvian election farce and the failure of Carter's new policy toward Latin America. By taking part in the election, we wanted to prove that, despite the manipulations, it was not possible to wrest from us the almost 500,000 votes won. As far as Carter's 'new deal' with respect to Latin America is concerned, we are going to prove that this is a change of mask and surgery to make the Peruvian regime presentable after the election."

[Question] But these statements seem to contradict your coalition's running for a constituent assembly....

[Answer] The main idea of our policy of taking part in the election was to advance toward the setting up of a government of the Peruvian workers which would make socialism possible and toward the formation of an army composed of workers militias. From the constituent assembly we will tell the masses that when peoples achieve awareness, the parliamentary system is no longer of any use at all to the bourgeoisie, and we will see who infringes respect for electoral legality. What we workers must do from the outset is to organize ourselves and advance toward socialism without any comrpomise or capitalism.

Risk of Coup

[Question] Is there not a risk that this policy will lead you to a military coup similar to those in Chile and Uruguay or that of the Argentine junta.

[Answer] There is a danger of a Pinochet-type coup, but the only way to resist it consists in strengthening the masses and not capitulating to the bourgeoisie. We must take care not to fall into the same mistakes as those which were made in Chile. We will not cause the masses to fall into the illusion that there are military sectors which defend the workers, and we will not create the false impression that political progress is made only in Parliament. We have proposed boosting the organizations to defend the masses and advancing along the path of control of the process of production by the workers.

[Question] In your opinion, are the claims that there is a pact between the Peruvian military leadership and Haya de la Torre's American Revolutionary Popular Alliance [APRA] correct?

[Answer] That pact exists. It is an open secret that they are moving roward a civilian and military government, despite the fact that they based their election campaign on attacks against the military, which gave them many votes. But the military and APRA are drawn together by the fact that they both defend the same interests--imperialist interests--even though they propose minimal reforms, less substantial than those which Velasco Alvarado proposed in his time. Both the military and APRA now stand to the right of Velascoism. [answer ends]

With respect to the Peruvian economic situation, Hugo Blanco cited the present Peruvian minister of the economy, who says that the economic crisis could last another 2 years. "The IMF," he added, "has the government on its knees. It is the IMF which is directing the Peruvian Government's economic policy, despite the fact that the latter is offering minimal resistance to this diktat," he added.

With respect to FOCEP's political tasks from now on, Blanco referred to the fact that this predominantly Trotskiyite leftwing coalition will be putting forward a draft constitution for a socialist country during the constituent process.

GOVERNMENT CONCERNED WITH U.S. OPINION ON NATIONALIZATIONS

PA121629Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Text] When decisions of such importance as the nationalization of oil and iron are made, the country sees all the legitimate resources available to it to make its opinion known and to publicize the phases of its development, said Information and Tourist Minister Celestino Armas in acknowledging that Venezuela has contracted the services of U.S. experts in order to have an accurate idea of the opinion within the U.S. Government and among U.S. citizens regarding the far-reaching decisions made by the national government.

Venezuela, as part of its various international publicity activities, has contracted a group of U.S. experts who have an agency dedicated to efforts of this kind. Through this group, we have been able to learn the opinions and the attitudes of U.S. Government officials and citizens regarding the steps that Venezuela has taken to nationalize its oil and iron.

GUERRILLA'S WIFE TAKES ASYLUM IN MEXICAN EMBASSY

PA122138Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0452 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 11 Jul (AFP)--Lirisol Velasquez Rosillo, a Venezuelan guerrilla and wife of guerrilla leader Carlos Araque Carcamo, took refuge in the Mexican Embassy in Caracas, it was reported here today. The report was rumored yesterday but confirmed today by the government, which disclosed that the leftist extremist sought and obtained asylum in the Mexican Embassy here and had been give a safe-conduct.

Lirisol Velasquez is the wife of Carlos Araque Carcamo, one of the 23 guerrillas of the far left who in January 1975 spectacularly escaped from a Caracas military garrison in which they were imprisoned.

It was said that the guerrilla sought asylum due to her advanced pregnancy and that she will go to Mexico tomorrow.

FOUR BROTHERS TAKE REFUGE IN VENEZUELAN EMBASSY IN USSR

PA131918Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1535 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 13 Jul (AFP)--Four Venezuelan brothers residing in the USSR took refuge in the Venezuelan Embassy in Moscow in the wake of presumed political problems, it was learned here today.

The case was reported by Nadia Machara, a sister of Jacobo, Alejandro, Jorge and Lida Machara, who said that they were stopped from leaving the Soviet Union to return to Venezuela when they were implicated in political affairs. She did not elaborate.

She added that their parents are Russian immigrants established here since 1947, but that their mother, Elena, traveled in 1964 with those now in the embassy, all of whom are of Venezuelan nationality, so that they could study in the USSR. "For some time now my brothers have tried to return, but they have not been allowed to do so," Nadia Machara pointed out.

The Venezuelan Foreign Ministry told AFP that this country's embassy in Moscow has begun an investigation of the case.

PCV PLATFORM REVEALED BY CANDIDATE HECTOR MUJICA

PA140012Y Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 5 Jul 78 p D2 PA

[Article by Leopoldo Linares: "The Venezuelan Communist Party Government Program Proposes Popular Democratic State and Expropriation of Monopolies"]

[Excerpts] The electoral program of Communist candidate Hector Mujica lists the serious existing problems and their solution and gives precedence to the task of creating a broadly democratic popular state, the first phase of which will be the expropriation of the monopolies and large businesses that form the economic groups of the united and dependent bourgeoisie.

Candidate Hector Mujica explained that "although the program has already been drafted, we still call it a project because we want to obtain the opinions of all interested sectors--workers, professionals, technicians and others--in order to perfect it before its final approval at the PCV Central Committee meeting scheduled for 18 July.

In order to build the broad democratic popular state, the PCV proposes the "strict compliance with the laws by the government and the people." The PCV officially calls for compliance with the Constitutional mandates for respect for life, right to education and employment, equal salaries for men and women, protection of the family, right to housing, right to land and technical assistance for peasants, promotion of culture and the right to enjoy old age peacefully.

The program then goes on to indicate concrete measures that will insure the people's participation in the government's functions, in the eradication of violence and the struggle against government corruption.

The PCV government, the program says, will completely invert the economic policies followed by the united and dependent bourgeois regimes. It proposes to complete the nationalization of petroleum and iron, to end the petroleum industry's dependency, to deal directly on a government-to-government basis, to change the petroleum refining patterns and advance the studies of the Orinoco belt. In regards to iron, it proposes the refining of iron in Venezuela and the state's direct control over transportation, marketing and nationalization of joint concerns.

The Communist candidate's program refers to the rational and patriotic exploitation of other natural wealth. In this respect it proposes the nationalization of the aluminum industry, the development of coal mining plans in Zulia, Lobatera and Naricual, the intensification of the exploitation of copper, phosphates, nickel and radioactive minerals, utilization of the hydroelectric resources and the establishment of a solid base for agriculture in order to increase its productivity.

In his government program the PCV candidate proposes the nationalization of banks and other financial institutions. He also proposes the establishment of controls for the entry and exit of foreign currency and capital and the renegotiation of debts contracted by former administrations.

The final part of the program refers to the need to rescue national culture and proceed to its necessary propagation; law on protection of artists and writers; rights of youth to sports and recreation. On foreign policy, the program proposes an anti-imperialist line; defense of international organizations; rejection of fascism and racism; and support for liberation movements and the Latin American integration processes.

MEXICO, SPAIN TO INTENSIFY COOPERATION PROGRAMS

PA131549Y Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[Text] During the remainder of 1978 and in 1979, Mexico and Spain will intensify a cooperation program in the area of foreign trade, which includes the modernization of small- and medium-sized commercial enterprises in both countries, the organization of small businessmen, the handling of agricultural and fishing products and various aspects connected with legislation on consumer protection.

In announcing the above, Mexico's Commerce Secretariat noted that all this has resulted from the work carried out in Madrid on 5, 6 and 7 July by the economic and commercial subcommittee of Mexico and Spain during the first meeting of the committee for trade cooperation between Mexico and Spain.

The Mexican delegation was led by Interior Trade Under Secretary Jorge Tamayo, while the Spanish delegation was headed by Interior Market Vice Minister Agustin Hidalgo de Quintana.

Another result of the sessions was the drafting of the committee's internal procedures and of the work program for the 1978-79 period. The program reportedly calls for the exchange of experience and the holding of seminars on subjects such as the modernization of small- and medium-sized commercial enterprises, the associating and grouping experiences of small businessmen, the implementation of foreign trade and price control policies, the normalization and handling of agricultural and fishing products, the passing of legislation connected with domestic commerce, the protection of consumers and the implementation of commercial information systems.

LABOR CONGRESS SUPPORTS POLITICAL REFORM

PA121930Y Mexico International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Text] The Mexican workers, [word indistinct] and nationalists, have reiterated their support for the political reform in order to take advantage of it, to deepen it and to expand it. They demand that the state exert more control over the mass communications media and introduce popular control of programming and other aspects of the management of the media. These are some of the conclusions reached by the First National Ordinary Assembly of the Labor Congress which ended yesterday and which, during the past 3 days, made important statements concerning the country's economic and social life.

The representatives of 6 million workers also agreed that political activity should be channeled toward the immediate achievement of the workers' proposal for a socially just and independent democratic development and the implementation of a process of economic and social reforms.

Another subject discussed was the reforms to the Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI]. Regarding this, it was agreed that in view of the size of the organization, it was not appropriate to adopt any resolution without the approval of the groups which make up the PRI and which must determine the impetus to be given to programs of social change, programs in which this political party has always been the leader.

Other matters which were pending were also discussed and approved. At the close of the assembly, Labor Secretary Pedro Ojeda Paullada stated that the results of the assembly will serve to support and strengthen government policy.

U.S. HOUSE REJECTS FUNDS FOR DARIEN HIGHWAY

PA140325Y Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 12 Jul 78 p 1A PA

[Text] The U.S. House of Representatives has rejected a 10-million-balboa appropriation to continue construction of the Darien Highway because of the anti-Panamanian feelings in the House and fears about the hoof-and-mouth disease affecting Colombian cattle, which is prevented from spreading to Central and North America by the natural barrier posed by the Darien gap. The rejection comes at a time when a ban on the highway's construction, as a result of a suit filed by a conservationist group, has already been lifted.

Reports obtained by this newspaper indicate that last month, the House of Representatives did not accept the recommendation of its appropriations committee to appropriate 10 million balboas for the Darien Highway. The committee had decided that the Colombian section of the highway would not be started until the problem of the hoof-and-mouth disease had been resolved.

The action of the House of Representatives was the result of a resolution submitted by Robert E. Bauman, a Republican congressman from Maryland, who said that the project should not be concluded in order to maintain the natural barrier against the hoof-and-mouth disease. He added that the United States had recently given Panama assets (the canal) worth $8 billion and that the Panamanian Government will have sufficient funds and capability to finance the Darien Highway project.

However, the U.S. Senate approved the appropriation for the Darien Highway as had been originally requested, which amounted to 20 million balboas. In view of the great difference between what the House of Representatives and the Senate approved, the issue was submitted for a new discussion to a special joint committee where the appropriation of these funds was left outside the approved package.

Washington sources have reported that the House of Representatives' hostile attitude toward the continuation of the Darien Highway project is due to primarily political feelings and that because of this there is little that the members of the Senate--where the feelings toward Panama are more favorable--can do.

MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCES FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING

PA131329Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Communique released on 12 July by Panamanian Foreign Affairs Ministry--read by announcer]

[Text] The Foreign Affairs Ministry announces that on Friday, 14 July, the Foreign Ministers of Colombia, Costa Rica, Venezuela and Panama will meet in our country to discuss matters connected with the contents of the joint declaration signed on 24 March 1975.

That declaration, endorsed by the presidents of Costa Rica, Colombia and Venezuela and the chief of government of Panama, concerns the granting of benefits to Costa Rica and Colombia in connection with the transit of their ships through the Panama Canal.

The National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives has approved resolution no 14 of 16 November 1977 which expresses support for the above-mentioned declaration.

The foreign ministers will also discuss the meetings to be held some time in the future by high-ranking delegations from their respective countries to negotiate an agreement aimed at granting certain benefits which Panama offered its border countries in the Declaration of Contadora Island as a free expression of its sovereign will.

The Venezuelan foreign minister is attending the meeting to represent his country, one of the signatories of the declaration of 24 March 1975.

The foreign ministers of Colombia, Costa Rica, Venezuela and Panama will also discuss the endorsement of the treaty's protocol on permanent neutrality and the functioning of the Panama Canal. This protocol will be open for endorsement by all states from the date of the treaty implementation.

Loyal to the fulfillment of its international commitments, Panama is promoting this meeting as a further step within the program to recover and consolidate our sovereignty throughout the national territory.

[Signed] Ministry of Foreign Affairs

TORRIJOS SPEAKS IN DARIEN PROVINCE

PA120426Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 11 Jul 78 PA

[Speech by Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos during visit to La Palma, Darien Province, on 11 July 1978--recorded]

[Excerpts] I have come to tell you that this process is neither surrendering nor stepping down [applause, shouts], that this process is neither losing heart nor loosening up and that I will remain at the head of this people because it is now that true challenges have arisen, which must make us improve the standard of living of 1.8 million Panamanians. Notice that when I think about improving living conditions I am not thinking about a small sector of this country, but about the entire population of this country.

We are nearing election time. Let this be a test of civic rule which the many hemispheric leaders who will be coming down [as heard] here may observe. The government has no official candidate nor does it allow its high-ranking employees to go around endorsing electoral lists. That cannot be permitted. [shouts, applause]

We have to strengthen popular power and we shall strengthn it. You should begin strengthening it by voting massively for the candidate of your choice. Vote wisely, because that new assembly of 505 representatives will be faced with many development challenges and in the coming years our country will reach levels of development that will improve our people's living conditions.

The worst is now over. Let us have faith. Let us have faith in the future and in what lies ahead.

APEDE PRESIDENT INTERVIEWED ON ECONOMIC, POLITICAL CLIMATE

PA131519Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Station reporter Luz Maria Noli interview with Carlos Valencia, new president of the Panamanian Business Executives Association--recorded; date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] Dr Valencia, how do you interpret the national climate with regard to the economic situation and the outlook for private investment?

[Answer] Luz Maria, I would say that the outlook has improved this year. One can say that we are in a favorable situation for economic recovery. I say this because last year we had a growth rate higher than the previous year. It was a modest growth rate, but it shows a trend toward recovery. Also, having concluded the canal negotiations, uncertainty among foreign and local investors has been eliminated. With this I do not mean to say that the conclusion was the best one from a patriotic viewpoint, but that the conclusion of the negotiations has eliminated a number of unknowns for investors.

Also, a number of state projects are being concluded. These projects, which have significant impact on the economy, include the airport, the fishing port and the convention center. These investments are going to have an impact on the country's economic life. The treaty also includes new revenues for the national government which will considerably help the dangerous financial and economic situation of the public sector. Those additional revenues are going to permit the continuation of the government's investment programs. This is a positive factor. Therefore, I could prudently say that the outlook is more favorable than last year.

However, I must state that in the Panamanian private sector--speaking exclusively of businessmen, executives, administrators and investors--one detects a certain pessimism. One definitely does not note that aggressive optimism which is necessary for a strong recovery. I believe that this is partly due to the fact that we have had 3 or 4 years of hard recession and the fact that this sector is very resentful as a result of policies and attitudes the national government has maintained for many years. It seems those policies are beginning to be corrected.

Regarding this, General Torrijos' statements at the annual executives conference were very opportune. During his participation in that meeting, he promised to hold a dialog. We in the private sector hope that there will be a dialog, one that will be permanent and not just an annual occurrence. It should be at the highest level, that is, between General Torrijos and the representatives of private enterprise rather than individual persons. Those representatives should be the presidents of associations which represent each sector of the private activity, that is, the National Council of Private Enterprise. It should be a serious dialog, sitting down at a table to discuss the national problems which affect the country's economic sector. That is my answer to your question.

[Question] Dr Valencia, what is your opinion of the political environment in the country as a result of the democratic opening?

[Answer] I am going to answer you on two levels. First, I am going to answer as a private businessman. I think you would receive the same reply from many executives, administrators, businessmen and investors of Panama. The private sector seeks a certain permanence in the rules of the game, that is, in the legal regulations of the economic process. It also wants the equal application of those regulations to everyone in a consistent manner. It also desires that there be consultation and participation when there is a change in the rules of the game.

A democratic system demands all these things. A democratic system fulfills these requirements. A democratic system demands that there be an independent and freely elected legislative branch, an independent judicial branch in charge of applying laws and a freely elected executive branch. So I would say that businessmen in general view favorably the return to a normal democratic system.

But the question you have asked cannot be solely answered as a businessman. The businessmen, executives and administrators are also Panamanian citizens. As a citizen, I believe that the great majority of the Panamanian people hopes that the current situation will not continue indefinitely.

This is a people with a democratic tradition based on Western values of freedom and real democracy. Therefore, all the statements of Torrijos and other members of the national government regarding that political opening and the return to democracy are very encouraging. I believe that one of the most important contributions that this government--a government which has committed mistakes, but which has also made achievements--can make is to lead the country onto the path of democracy, establishing laws and regulations that will eliminate those defects and negative aspects of our democratic system before 1968.

[Question] Dr Valencia, in all this democratic interplay, how does the private sector or private business view the call to a general strike by the leader of the Panamenist Party? Do you think this will really achieve this harmony, unity and democracy that is being sought?

[Answer] I cannot speak with much knowledge of all this. I suppose that in reality the opposition leaders seek to pressure the government to negotiate; that is, to have genuine negotiations. I think all citizens would prefer that the return to democracy take place in an orderly and peaceful manner. I think that must also be the goal of the political leaders, but I cannot answer you knowledgeably because I am not aware of their plans or projects.

[Question] What is your comment on the Panamanian bishops' statement in their explanation of the pastoral letter when theh said, and I will quote, "that our consumer and dependent capitalist society is insensitive to the participation of the poor in receiving what is necessary and in responsibly contributing to decisionmaking " What is your opinion of this statement?

[Answer] I believe, and I think that many businessmen would agree, that in this country there should not be economic growth without social change, that there should be a maximum of social change and redistribution compatible with economic growth. Therefore, I would like to tell you that in the private sector, either through conviction or realization of the need for these things, there is a general acceptance that there should be a permanent social change at an acceptable speed for this people.

I do not want to defend a Manchester-type capitalist system. I do not think anyone defends it today. I think everyone desires a permanent, orderly social change that achieves a greater equality among all Panamanians and a greater equality of opportunity. In this sense, I would like to express agreement with the efforts and the reformist orientation of the church. If the pastors of the church have truly noted a certain insensitivity, it would be good for us to meet with them to discuss this and how the situation can be improved. But, in general, I would say that today in this country all of us agree that there should be a permanent social change. This government has done much in this regard and it must continue to do so.

[Noli] Thank you very much, Dr Valencia, for your time and statements.

ARIAS, OTHERS HOLD RALLY IN CHORRERA

PA080435Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Jul 78 PA

[Text] [intercepted in progress] The demonstrators in Chorrera came from the Arraijan and Capira regions and neighboring communities. At the Martin Feuillet Plaza in Chorrera, Manuel Faundes talked about the need for a coalition of parties to form an opposition front. He also said: We challenge Torrijos to put up whomever they [as heard] want as a candidate to face us in free elections.

Jovanis Arosemena and Ricardo Arias Calderon, the latter a member of the Christian Democratic Party, also spoke. Calderon called for justice, freedom and a nationalist democracy now and urged the audience to struggle in the opposition front by participating in a strike.

Meanwhile, Arnulfo Arias began his speech by recalling the days in which he visited Chorrera and ate sausages and the local cornmeal dish. He spoke to Chorrerans about different aspects which, according to him, represent administrative irregularities and economic failures of the government.

The points which were stressed and at which the public enthusiastically applauded were the high cost of living, including the price of food, taxes, the 5-percent sales tax, and the cost of electricity and water. A festive atmosphere prevailed all afternoon at the Martin Feuillet Plaza in Chorrera, as a band accompanied the people while they sang different songs.

PROFESSORS ISSUE STATEMENT ON UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY

PA120438Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 11 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpts] Twenty-three professors of the University of Panama, some of them former deans of various departments, have signed a document demanding the return of legal order to our main center of learning, the institutionalization of academic autonomy, an attitude of justice and human respect and ideological freedom within a cultural framework.

They maintain that since 1968, when the university was left at the mercy of the country's military regime, our house of higher learning has been completely submitted to the regime's demands and orders. The document adds that during the past 10 years, the university's autonomy was abolished, its authorities were controlled, its body of professors was degraded and the nature of its student body was completely changed by sectarianizing it.

The 23 university professors add that being the true mirror of the upheavals being experienced by the nation, the university's reigning anarchy, disorder and personalistic favoritism culminated on the night of 14 June in the most notorious incident of its constantly critical situation with several students being killed, the exact number still remaining unknown because of the repression and censorship in Panamanian life. This resulted in a new closure without indications that the university will emerge any better from the punishment levied upon it.

The document adds that if the legal order of the university is not reestablished, it will mean the intensification of the regression, the anarchy and the confusion which is so apparent in the nation today following the unpunished bloody events at the University of Panama.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY TO REOPEN 20 JULY

PA061857Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpts] The national university will reopen on 20 July, Rector Eligio Salas has announced. He further announced that simultaneously with the resumption of classes, a new set of measures to enforce discipline will be put into effect.

Classes at the University of Panama were suspended 3 weeks ago following incidents caused by members of the GUAYKUCHO-MIR opposition student group, which resulted in the death of two students. These deaths are currently being investigated.

COSTA RICA

CARAZO REITERATES SUPPORT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

PA131934Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1309 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 13 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo has said in defense of human rights that his country is willing to struggle against all kinds of totalitarianism.

In a speech he gave last night during a dinner given him by the diplomatic corps, the chief of state reaffirmed the thesis of respect for human rights as the pillar of his government's policy. In keeping with this policy, he again expressed pleasure over Costa Rica's being selected as headquarters of the inter-American human rights court and proclaimed that man is the son of God, transcendent and free, and that his dignity and greatness should be protected permanently.

Carazo said that Costa Ricans are willing to struggle against the enemies of their values, principles and traditions, against all who try to rob them of their dignity and identity, against all kinds of totalitarianism, and against those who are at the service of interests alien to the essence of the free people of Costa Rica.

The president said his country is open to the friendship of all nations respecting others' rights and demanding respect for its own, alined only "with the cause of those who struggle for justice, dignity and liberty, which stem from man's greatness and not the temporary interests of a regime or political party."

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT VIEWS REPORTED UK FORCE REDUCTION IN BELIZE

PA132344Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2320 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 13 Jul (LATIN)--The Guatemalan Government has reacted in a "moderately optimistic" fashion to reports from London to the effect that the Harrier fighter plane force in Belize will be reduced. A press communique issued by the Foreign Ministry today stated that the Guatemalan Government was informed about the decision by the British Consulate in Guatemala City. The consulate's report announced the British Government decision to withdraw "several planes" and to modernize its antiaircraft defenses at the Belize airport, which will permit the United Kingdom to reduce the number of military personnel.

The Foreign Ministry said "that the modernization of the above installations leads one to believe that the defensive power will be the same or greater, even with less personnel." However, the communique said that "the announced reduction of forces makes one hope that this is the beginning of the withdrawal of the additional troops in the British garrison in Belize."

The British Government reinforced the garrison a year ago after the Guatemalan Government gave the impression that it would invade Belize, whose inhabitants want independence. The Foreign Ministry bulletin concluded by stating that "in this fashion the British Government's measure could contribute to the creation of a climate of mutual confidence for the development of the forthcoming negotiations between Guatemala and Great Britain."

HONDURAS

STUDENTS, POLICE CLASH IN SAN PEDRO SULA

PA131644Y Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1220 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] An undetermined number of policemen and students were wounded last night during street disturbances in San Pedro Sula north of Tegucigalpa on the Atlantic Coast. According to unofficial reports, leftist extremists used groups of high school students to provoke the police, giving rise to a confrontation of still undetermined consequences.

In San Pedro Sula, Honduras' second largest city, it was reported that several policemen were wounded and that several students and leftist leaders are under arrest.

INNOVATION-UNITY PARTY REJECTS POLITICAL ALLIANCES

PA132335Y San Pedro SULA TIEMPO in Spanish 3 Jul 78 p 4 PA

[Excerpts] The Innovation and Unity Party [PINU] has decided for the time being not to form any alliances with other political organizations for the coming elections.

This decision was reached at a consultation meeting of the members of the departmental bodies [tribunales] of this political party, which is in the process of organizing, held on Thursday of last week with the principal leaders of the organizations.

Andonie Fernandez, PINU's national representative, told TIEMPO that one thing which was made "very clear" at the meeting is that the political organization "is not thinking in terms of alliances of any nature at this time."

He said that "it is thinking just about organizing itself as a legal body, that is, to register the party as provided in the new election and political organization laws."

Nevertheless, the PINU leader conceded that a PINU alliance with another political group in the country might occur in the future.

Concerning the legal registration of PINU with the National Elections Tribunal, Fernandez said that no deadlines have been established, but "we are working intensely to comply with the provisions of the law."

After reaffirming that PINU has the capacity to collect the 10,000 signatures required by law for registration, the political leader said that the process of recruiting is going "very slowly."

Referring to the amendments made by the government to the elections and political organizations law, by which the national registry of persons was eliminated, the leader said that "this undoubtedly speeds up the process, but I believe that no procedure is exempt from potential fraud."

"Unfortunately, the opportunity was lost to mechanize the electoral system. According to the law, the idea was to use modern mechanical methods that would provide a greater guarantee for electoral efficiency and security," he said.

"Unfortunately, with the amendment of the law, we lost that opportunity and now all we can do is adhere to what the law says and try to see that the country emerges from this crossroads as well as possible," he added.

He was asked whether he believes that voter registration procedure established by the government is open to fraud.

"I believe that no procedure is exempt from that possibility. Naturally, when it is done manually, as it is going to be done, that is more likely," he replied.

NICARAGUA

VIOLENCE ERUPTS AGAIN IN MONIMBO DISTRICT

PA131637Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1220 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Troops had to use armored personnel carriers last night to control the situation in Masaya's Monimbo district, where violence erupted again last night. The Indians kept throwing bombs for several hours, prompting the military to take strong action. The Red Cross has not reported any casualties or damage.

TERRORISTS ATTACK POLICE PRECINCT IN MANAGUA

PA131545Y Managua Estacion X in Spanish 1523 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[Distributed by Inter-Central American Radio Organization]

[Text] Last night terrorists attacked the 5th police precinct in the densely inhabited district of Altagracia in southwestern Managua. The precinct was strafed by machinegun fire coming from a taxi. Authorities immediately started a search for the taxi and found it [words indistinct] in the south, abandoned in a wooded area. The driver was found gagged and tied up. Using the description he gave of the terrorists, the security force undertook an immediate search.

The terrorists were found last night. Among them are two women who, after questioning last night, revealed many details of the hideouts and the activities of the enemies of peace and tranquillity.

This attack against the 5th police precinct comes after the painful incidents of Jinotepe, Diriamba and San Marcos.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS APPROVED BY CONGRESS

PA131642Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1220 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] With only the participation of government deputies, the National Congress yesterday approved the amendments to the constitution proposed by President Anastasio Somoza. The amendments, which eliminate from politics leftist forces not supporting the principle of free enterprise, provoked the withdrawal of the opposition bloc, which feels that the amendments do no in general meet the aspirations of the citizens.

The Liberals happily approved the amendments, which General Somoza has described as a political opening.

SANDINISTS RELEASED AFTER APPELLATE COURT RULING

PA131636Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1220 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Four of the nine Sandinists absolved by a jury in Masaya 13 days ago were released last night.

The appellate court [words indistinct] approved all actions taken on the case and the jury's verdict.

The youths who obtained their release are Sebastian Escobar, Patricia (Brenes), Constantino Tapia and Eduardo Belli Montiel. They shouted "long live the front" upon leaving the jail, and the Indians of Monimbo carried them on their shoulders to their district.

JOURNALISTS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST PRESS CONTROL

PA131332Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2228 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 12 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The newsmen of Managua demonstrated today outside the offices of the Supreme Court of Justice shouting "justice" and "down with the black code." Leaders of the Union of Journalists of Nicaragua expressed their opposition to having an army officer continue arbitrating in the application of the radio and television code, which was baptized the "black code" by the journalists.

The Union of Radio Newsmen of Managua and Union of Journalists of Nicaragua announced that they will declare before the legislative branch that the code is unconstitutional because it "is contrary to freedom of the press."

Meanwhile, the journalists were pressuring magistrates to issue a writ suspending the 2-month closing imposed on radio Mi Preferida by the national radio and television directorate, in addition to a 5,000-cordoba ($714) fine. Similar and smaller fines have been imposed on other news media in Managua for supposed violations of the so-called "black code."

FURTHER COMMENT ON EFFORTS TO DIVIDE NONALINED MOVEMENT

GRANMA Article Quoted

PA131425Y Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[World events commentary by Angel Hernandez]

[Text] The Cuban newspaper GRANMA has published an article entitled "What Are the Real Intentions of the Imperialists, Maoists and Reactionaries in Their Attacks on the Nonalined Movement?" The article analyzes in detail the stubborn campaign which those forces are mustering to try to divide and neutralize the nonalined movement. GRANMA says that this infamous campaign centers on three key objectives: to isolate the movement from international political problems and have it concentrate on only economic problems; to strip it of its anti-imperialist character and lead it into a position of passive neutrality and against the socialist community; and to try to block Cuban action within the nonalined movement in order to sabotage the sixth summit scheduled for 1979 in Havana.

The Cuban Communist Party organ states that these maneuvers by imperialism, its NATO allies and the new Chinese Mandarins, supported by other more or less reactionary forces, angrily respond to the positive activity which the nonalined countries exercise in international political and economic relations, as well as their growing tendency to move toward the positions of the forces which love peace and social progress.

The paper says that the present reality has forced the enemies of peace and nonalinement to change their methods of attack. Instead of the direct attacks of a few years ago, today they try to undermine the bases of the movement from within, using for this the diversity of the forces which compose it and the support of some markedly proimperialist countries, such as Egypt and Zaire, or others with traditionally hegemonic tendencies within the nonalined movement.

With respect to the activity of the Chinese leadership in that sense, the paper says that the new Chinese Mandarins are making every possible effort to divide the movement and impose their own expansionist political platform, spreading among the nonalined countries distrust toward the socialist countries, trying to drag them onto the path of anticommunism and anti-Sovietism. Among the most recent maneuvers directed against this organization of underdeveloped countries, the paper cites the activities of imperialism and its allies directed toward destabilizing progressive governments, incorporating into the movement countries which belong to aggressive military blocs, and distorting, through slander campaigns, the role of countries such as Cuba, whose history within the nonalined movement cannot be hidden by slander campaigns.

GRANMA's comments on the designs of international reaction directed toward undermining the unity of the nonalined movement come at a time of the preparatory phase of the sixth summit which will be held in Havana next year. In May Havana received the participants of the ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the movement, which reaffirmed the commitment of its members to maintain their unity and to struggle to strengthen it by cooperating with the forces which love peace, democracy and progress throughout the world.

The meeting of foreign ministers of nonalined countries slated for Belgrade from 24 to 29 July will also be a significant occasion for the movement to grow by maintaining the unity of its ranks, the continuity of its anti-imperialist nature, and its radical defense of the most legitimate interests of the underdeveloped peoples in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Cuban, Soviet Roles Defended

PA131400Y Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In the last few weeks, the United States and some of its allies, such as China, have intensified their maneuvers to try to weaken and divide the nonalined movement. One of the theories which emerges in this campaign is that the organization must condemn so-called hegemonism, a Maoist term often used in China's attacks on the Soviet Union. This maneuver operates under the disguise of a so-called independence and equal distance [equidistancia] of the nonalined countries, which is being used to cause difficulties between the nonalined and the socialist bloc.

It is also significant that this campaign to sow confusion and division within the nonalined movement coincides with statements made by U.S. President James Carter, Chinese leaders, Zairean leaders and those from other countries who are trying to belittle Cuban cooperation with several African countries, especially Angola and Ethiopia. At the same time, they state that our country is not a nonalined country.

For Cuba, the success and future of the nonalined movement consists of not being penetrated, confused or deceived by imperialist ideology. Only the closest alliance among all the world's progressive forces will give the movement the necessary strength to overcome the still powerful forces of imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism and racism and to successfully struggle for the aspirations of justice and peace of all peoples of the world.

Cuba has often reaffirmed that it is alined on the side of the peoples who struggle against colonialism, neocolonialism, apartheid and imperialism. However, this has not been expressed by words only but by action, that is, with internationalist aid which has been requested from Cuba.

The world has been divided into various groups on numerous occasions. For Cuba, the world is divided into capitalist and socialist countries, imperialist and neocolonized countries, colonialist and colonized countries, reactionary and progressive countries, that is, governments which support imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism and racism and governments which are against all that. That is why Cuba condemns the theory of two imperialisms, which tries to convey the idea that one is the United States and the other the Soviet Union. That theory is encouraged by imperialist theoreticians and the traitorous Chinese leaders. Some of them, with evident injustice and historic (?inexactness) and forgetting the real facts and the deep and insurmountable division which exists between imperialism and socialism, try to ignore the glorious, heroic and extraordinary services offered to humanity by the Soviet people. No one will be able to forget that the existence of the powerful socialist bloc, headed by the Soviet Union, was the determining factor in the crumbling of the colonialist system after World War II and in the successful actions of the national liberation movements.

How can one label the USSR "imperialist?" Where are its monopolistic enterprises? Where is its participation in the transnationals? What industry, what mines, what oilfields does the Soviet Union possess in the underdeveloped world?

Concerning those who accuse Cuba of not being a nonalined country, we reply that we are a socialist, nonalined state because we have always been in the vanguard of the struggle against imperialism. We have always supported the just causes of all peoples of the world.

Nevertheless, some of those who accuse us were and still are alined against the objectives of the movement. This is the case with China, an ally of the United States; of the Chilean fascist junta; of the South African racists, of the traitorous Middle East regimes which are today flirting with the Zionist regime of Israel.

PRELA VIEWS POLITICAL SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA

FL131534Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1413 GMT 13 Jul 78 FL

[Text] PRENSA LATINA today comments that the increasing popular resistance and confrontations with the regimes of Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador show that the revolutionary thermometer in Central America is rising.

Since 10 January when opposition leader Pedro Joaquin Chamorro was assassinated, the Somoza dictatorship has had to use increasing repression to maintain itself in power. PRENSA LATINA points out that the killings at Jinotepe, where four students and a worker were killed by the National Guard and more than 20 people were injured, is an example of the degree of repression in Nicaragua. The return to Managua of the so-called group of 12, the front opposing Anastasio Somoza's regime and calling for his departure from the government, was an event of great importance in Nicaragua.

PRENSA LATINA today comments that the increasing repression of the people of Central America and the popular rejection of this are also seen in Guatemala. The recent election which gave the victory to Gen Romero Lucas Garcia were denounced as fraudulent by Guatemalan candidate Col Enrique Peralta, who threatened to use violence if the fraud were not recognized. The shadow of the slaughter at Panzos--where more than 100 (Kekchi) peasants were killed by the army and armed latifundistas while another 300 were wounded--looms as a shadow over outgoing Guatemalan President Kjell Laugerud.

PRENSA LATINA adds that the results of these popular actions cannot be realized because of U.S. military support for the regimes of Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador.

FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER MEETS WITH SPANISH OFFICIAL

FL131152Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Jul 78 FL

[Text] Foreign Trade Minister Marcelo Fernandez Font has received Spanish Trade Under Secretary (Carlos Bustelo y Garcia del Real), with whom he discussed important aspects of development of Cuban-Spanish trade. Also at the meeting, which was held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, were general director of exports Juan Arenas, director of countries with centralized economics Luis Caldereda and Spanish trade counselor in our country (Alberto Recarte). Attending for the Cuban side were Deputy Minister Ricardo Cabrizas, Directors Alberto Betancourt and Antonio Villaverde, and trade attache to Spain Jose Hidalgo.

RAUL CASTRO CHAIRS FAR ACADEMY ANNIVERSARY EVENT

FL131945Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Jul 78 FL

[Text] Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR], has presided over the event marking the 15th anniversary of the Gen Maximo Gomez FAR Academy. Others present were Division Generals Abelardo Colome Ibarra and Francisco Cabrera and Vice Adm Aldo Santamaria Cuadrado, all FAR vice ministers; Lt Gen Sergey Krivoplyasov, chief of Soviet military specialists working in Cuba; and other FAR chiefs and officers.

Div Gen Pedro Garcia Pelaez, member of the PCC Central Committee, made the closing remarks. During the ceremony commencement exercises were held for the officers of the first academic term, of the second academic term of the Revolutionary Navy and of the seventh term of officers' higher education.

Majors Rafael Garcia Arango and Dagoberto Brigado Morgado, corvette Capt Juan Carlos Garcia and 1st Lt Jose Antonio Garcia Ramirez were decorated with gold medals for having achieved excellent grades in all tests.

In his closing remarks Div Gen Pedro Garcia Pelaez referred to the history and significance of the Gen Maximo Gomez FAR Academy as a training center for qualified command cadres who can master and operate the FAR's complex and modern combat equipment. He said that during the past 15 years that high educational center has kept pace with the FAR's improved technology and has played an outstanding role in the training and formation of cadres. He added that one of the factors making the academy's success possible was the aid lent by Soviet military specialists who have placed at our disposal the best knowledge of contemporary military art.

HODGE CHAIRS CEREMONY FOR GUANTANAMO TEACHERS

FL121920Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1804 GMT 12 Jul 78 FL

[Text] More than 1,000 teachers and professors have graduated in a ceremony held at Guantanamo's America Theater which was presided over by Alfonso Hodge, member of the PCC Central Committee and first secretary of the party in Guantanamo Province. In his closing remarks Hodge pointed out the efforts of those who have devoted their lives to the noble task of education. The PCC Central Committee member announced that 1 rural university institute, 2 junior high farming schools, 5 urban basic secondary schools, 12 [word indistinct], 5 child care centers, 4 laboratories and 1 machine shop will be completed by the start of the next school term.

The graduation ceremony held in Guantanamo included the first group of students of the Manuel Ascunce Domenech teachers contingent, the fourth of the Raul Gomez Garcia teacher-training school and students of the teacher-training institute of higher education.

BRIEFS

CANADIAN-BUILT TANKER--A Cuban flag ship, Cinco de Septiembre, has been launched at the Canadian shipyards of marine industries located 100 km from the city of Montreal. The tanker Cinco de Septiembre displaces 10,000 tons and is the third of a series being built at that shipyard in Quebec Province. The ship has a modern system for loading and unloading liquids and a highly automated bridge. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Jul 78 FL]

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

GUZMAN, MAJLUTA RECEIVE CERTIFICATES OF VICTORY

PA131659Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0416 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 12 July (AFP)--President-elect Antonio Guzman and his running mate, Jacobo Majluta, today received certificates of victory in the 16 May elections from the Central Electoral Board. The two certificates state that the presidential and vice presidential candidates of the Dominican Revolutionary Party received 867,231 votes nationwide.

The official proclamation of Guzman's and Majluta's victory will be made by the National Congress at an assembly for which no date has been set. According to the constitution, this assembly must examine, prior to the proclamation, the documents from the Central Electoral Board.

BALAGUER OFFERS REFORMIST PARTY'S COOPERATION

PA140308Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0226 GMT 14 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 13 Jul (AFP)--President Joaquin Balaguer tonight offered the Reformist Party's fullest cooperation to the government that will be installed on 16 August under the presidency of Antonio Guzman.

In a radio and television speech the chief of state said that the party he leads (Reformist) will give all its support to the fundamental changes which the government of the Dominican Revolutionary Party promotes toward solving the country's "grave problems."

GUZMAN SAYS RELATIONS WITH CUBA TO BE SAME

PA131657Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0404 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 12 Jul (AFP)--According to statements made here today by President-elect Antonio Guzman, candidate of the Dominican Revolutionary Party in the May elections, the new Dominican administration is not contemplating the establishment of diplomatic or consular relations with the Cuban regime.

Guzman said that "the present level of our relations" with the Caribbean socialist country "does not demand them," adding that Santo Domingo's ties with Cuba "will remain the same as those maintained by President Joaquin Balaguer."

LISTIN DIARIO CRITICIZES CONGRESSIONAL, MILITARY COMMUNIQUES

PA140358Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0620 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 12 Jul (EFE)--The newspaper "LISTIN DIARIO" today expressed concern over the documents issued separately by the Congress and the armed forces regarding political and electoral matters in the Dominican Republic.

In its editorial, the newspaper criticized the position of the Congress in reserving itself the right to intervene in the review of the final documents if the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] rejects the ruling of the Central Electoral Board [JCE], which deprived it of four senators gained in the elections.

That resolution, the newspaper notes, prohibits the PRD from using its right to resort to legal channels to protest the measure and describes it as a kind of restriction.

Furthermore, "LISTIN DIARIO" expresses surprise over the fact that the congressional communique states that any action to counter the electoral ruling could "even endanger the constitutionality under which the country has evolved for the past 12 years."

The newspaper compares the congressional communique with that of the military and says that, paradoxically, the language used by the latter is more cordial, kinder and shows more respect for the citizens' will. It notes that the military communique contains a serious mistake which "is that of presuming that those who criticize and seek annulment of the JCE ruling through legal actions have a rebellious attitude."

After remarking on the democratic process in effect, the newspaper says that "it could be said that today we are witnessing the outset of the self-destruction of the democratic system which once was the pride of the nation."

GUYANA

ARRESTS, BEATINGS REPORTED DURING REFERENDUM

FL131335Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 11 Jul 78 pp 1, 11 FL

[Text] Georgetown, July 10 (CANA)--One opposition politician was arrested and another beaten, while chairman of the small rightwing Liberation Party, Dr. Makepeace Richmond, was man-handled in a series of incidents near the close of polling in Guyana's first referendum tonight, opposition leader Dr. Cheddi Jagan said.

Dr. Jagan indicated that Parliamentarian Dalchand was arrested by police and taken into custody because he insisted on remaining in a polling station where he was a polling agent.

Parliamentarian Cyril Belgrave was beaten and his face had to take ten stitches, Dr. Jagan said.

He said his party was told also that Dr. Richmond had been beaten and had his camera and watch taken away.

Moving People

Dalchand and Belgrave are parliamentarians of Dr. Jagan's opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP).

He said the incidents apparently arose because Belgrave and Richmond had been attempting to take pictures of buses which, according to him, were moving persons around the polling stations to vote.

A government spokesman said the claim that persons were being taken around polling stations to vote was "ridiculous" and "an attempt to impugn the integrity of the poll supervisors."

The spokesman from the Home Affairs Ministry acknowledged that there were several arrests, but the exact number was unknown.

According to the spokesman, the police had clearly advised citizens not to interfere with those who were attempting to cast their votes. There had been reports that such incidents had occurred, the spokesman claimed.

The incidents marred what had appeared to be an incident-free polling up to mid-afternoon, and, according to Dr Jagan, they occurred because the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) "had become desperate" because, he claimed, of the effectivenss of an opposition boycott of the polls.

Poor Turn-out

A combination of the boycott and heavy rains for much of the day apparently caused a very poor turn-out at the polls in some voting districts, but so far no figures have been made available.

The referendum office would merely say that there was slow turnout in the morning, "building up" during the latter part of the day.

There were 1,170 polling stations in 36 districts in the country, and it is believed that at least a half million persons were registered to cast the ballot, including several thousands aged 18 to 21 given the franchise for the first time.

They were voting "yes" or "no" on whether they agreed with a controversial constitution (amendment) bill which seeks to remove the need for future referanda in the existing Guyana Constitution.

The entire opposition and a number of groups imposed a boycott mainly to protest alleged rigging of the polls.

Several Arrested

Jagan told CANA that several members of his party from the Guyana Agricultural and General Workers Union (GAWU) were arrested apart from Paliamentarian Dalchand.

They included top GAWU officials Roy Bishamber, James Dastajir, and Shri Chand, as well as Miss Arai Tantoni, head of his party's women's arm.

He added that two activists, Clement Rohee and Ramotar, were held at gunpoint by soldiers in front of Freedom House, his party's headquarters, and searched because they were seen carrying cameras, and he had to intervene personally to avoid an incident.

One activist, Rajpaul Mangru, was reported by him to be in the hospital after he and four other activists were beaten at Enterprise, East Coast Demerara.

Another 15 persons were said to be held by police at No 71 village on the Corentyne coast in eastern Guyana.

Jagan said he informed Police Commissioner Barker of these incidents and Barker promised to investigate and get in touch with him.

The commissioner confirmed for CANA that he had been in contact with the opposition leader and was probing the report.

Film Star Too

The ruling People's National Congress (PNC) reported, too, that some of its members were beaten up.

A spokesman identified film star Malcolm Panday as one who suffered at the hands of assailants, and that he was hospitalized with injuries.

The spokesman said that incidents were expected during polling and when they occurred they should be left for the police to handle.

A government spokesman denied tonight that polling was extended here beyond the six o'clock deadline this evening, as charged by opposition leader Dr. Cheddi Jagan.

The spokesman said the rules stated that persons in line even when the deadline was reached were entitled to vote, and where persons were seen in polling stations after six o'clock, most likely they were there to cast their vote after being in line.

Polling began at six this morning and closed at six in the evening, the spokesman said.

BAUXITE, ALUMINA WORKERS STILL ON STRIKE

FL131435Y Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 10 Jul 78 p 9 FL

[Text] Georgetown, (CANA)--The state-owned Guyana Mining Enterprise (GUYMINE) has threatened to take "strong disciplinary action" against hundreds of bauxite and alumina workers on strike since last Thursday.

The company said in a statement last Friday that it had agreed to pay each of the 6,500-odd workers in the bauxite industry the equivalent of two weeks basic pay, tax-free, to settle a profit sharing dispute given as the original reason for the strike.

But despite this some workers persisted in staying off the job, and it therefore appeared that the matter of the payout "is not the real cause of the persistent attempt by this small group of employees to generate a full scale stoppage of work," the statement said.

The strike began with an estimated 130 workers in the bauxite plant at Linden Ground, noon last Thursday, and by Friday had spread to the alumina plant.

There was no official estimate of how many workers were off the job but usually reliable sources said it could be just over half the workforce of some 6,500.

GUYMINE pointed out that the same group of workers spear-heading the current strike had motivated another unofficial stoppage May 26 last at the alumina plant, to protest the suspension of a worker for taking time off without permission.

The company said it had been informed by the Guyana mine workers' union that the current strike was entirely unofficial and stated that it would call upon "all possible resources to restrain people who insist on making physical attack on any of its employees."

MALMIERCA MEETS WITH BURNHAM, JACKSON

PA132137Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2110 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 13 Jul (AFP)--Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca today held secret talks here with Guyanese Prime Minister Forbes Burnham and Foreign Minister Rashleigh Jackson.

Malmierca arrived here last night as a special envoy of Fidel Castro. He will return to Havana tonight.

Reliable sources have reported that the talks centered on the nonalined foreign ministers meeting to be held in Yugoslavia on 29 July.

Observers believe that the visit by the Cuban minister, who will head the Cuban delegation to the Yugoslavia meeting, was connected with the meeting held in Havana between Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley and Fidel Castro.

Manley and Castro discussed the problems faced by nonalined countries, especially in the Western Hemisphere.

JAMAICA

MALMIERCA MEETS WITH PATTERSON IN KINGSTON

FL131635Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Jul 78 FL

[Text] Kingston--Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has met with his Jamaican counterpart, Percival Patterson, at the protocol hall in that capital's international airport. The formal talks were held in a cordial atmosphere with mutual understanding. They discussed topics relating to the upcoming foreign ministers meeting scheduled for this month in Belgrade.

Patterson, accompanied by Vice Minister (Frank Francis), and Cuban Ambassador Ramon Pez-Ferro and other members of the Cuban state mission, were at the airport to meet the Cuban visitor.

Isidoro Malmierca made a brief stop en route to Georgetown, Guyana.

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